

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Geography Division, ORR

Project Initiation Memorandum

To: Chief, Geographic Research

Project No.: 60.1790

From: A/Chief, Geography Division

Date: 10 August 1959

1. Subject of Proposed Project: Territorial and Sovereignty Problems in the Arctic.
2. Statement of Problem: (Outline attached)

To analyze the territorial and sovereignty problems of the Arctic Basin in the light of recent technological, military and legal developments. The attached outline is preliminary and may be modified during the course of the investigation.

3. Requester: Office of Intelligence Resources and Coordination, Dept. of State.
4. Responsible Analyst and Branch: [REDACTED] GG/X and GG/S will be consulted.
25X1A9a
5. Kind and Extent of Cooperation Desired from:
 - a. D/GC: Tentative list of maps is attached with the outline.
 - b. Consultation with DD/P/SR, OCI.
 - c. Consultation with various State Dept. Divisions.
6. Estimated Man Hours in D/GC: 350
7. Probable Completion Date: Open
8. Probable Form of Final Publication: G report
9. Recommendations Regarding Distribution of Finished Report: Standard
10. Comments: Memo from IRC, Dept. of State, 15 July 1959 and our answering memo are attached.
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Approved: 25X1A9a

[REDACTED]
Chief, Geographic Research

[REDACTED] 25X1A9a
Assistant Director, ORR

[REDACTED]
A/Chief, Geography Division

17 AUG 1959

Date

18 AUG 1959

Date

Some attention might be given to scientific programs in the Arctic and their significance to both US and USSR.
/s/ JAB

Territorial and Sovereignty Problems in the Arctic

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- I. Summary
- II. Introduction
 - A. Environmental factors
 - B. Emergence of modern interest in the Arctic Basin
 - C. Political Problems in the Arctic
 - 1. Recent unilateral extension of territorial seas
 - 2. Significance of delimitation of Polar territory
 - 3. The question of sovereignty over "air space" in the Arctic
 - 4. Soviet interests in the Arctic
 - 5. U.S. interests in the Arctic
- III. Problems of Jurisdiction in the Arctic
 - A. Development of the "sector principle."
 - 1. Summary of exploration of major interested countries
 - 2. Basic claims to Polar territory
 - a. Canada (1925)
 - b. USSR (1926)
 - (1) Incorporated in Soviet Municipal Law by decree
 - (2) Invariably shown on all official Soviet maps
 - (3) Diplomatic protest against penetrations of "Soviet sector"
 - c. Denmark (Greenland)
 - d. Norway (Svalbard)
 - e. U.S. (Alaska)
 - 3. U.S. position in regard to "sector theory."
 - B. Potential conflicts in the Arctic
 - 1. Norway-USSR
 - (a) Western sector boundary
 - 2. Floating ice-masses
 - (a) U.S.
 - (b) USSR
 - 3. Military use
 - 4. Warming of Arctic Basin
 - (a) Soviet plans: diversion of warm currents to Arctic Basin
 - (b) U.S. scientific speculation on use of nuclear blasts
 - C. Proposals for the internationalization of the Arctic
- IV Gaps in international law...

MAPS TO ACCOMPANY THE STUDY:

- 1. Locational
- 2. Air and sea routes
- 3. Sector claims
- 4. Delimitation of territorial sea
- 5. Natural resources of the Arctic